

## REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action dated December 10, 2002. Applicant has presented amendments and arguments below that Applicant believes should render the claims allowable. In the event, however, that the Examiner is not persuaded by Applicant's arguments and amendments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendments and remarks to clarify issues upon appeal.

Claims 1-39 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-39 have been rejected. New claims 40-42 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-42 are pending. For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

The previous November 5, 2002 response to the Office Action mailed September 10, 2002 is incorporated by reference herein.

### Claim 1

Claim 1 is provided below for ease of review.

1. A method for accessing information on a network, the method comprising the steps of:
  - a) allowing a first system to submit a query to a second system;
  - b) processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes information not residing on the second system to process the query; and
  - c) utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system.

### 35 USC §102

The Examiner has stated:

Claims 1-39 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Raz U.S. Patent no. 6,292,827.

Regarding claim 1, Raz discloses a method for accessing information on a network, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) allowing a first system to submit a query to a second system;
- b) processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes information not residing on the second system to process the query; and
- c) utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejections.

Raz fails to teach or suggest the steps of claim 1, as recited in claim 1. Raz does not allow "a first system to submit a query to a second system." Raz merely teaches establishing a data communication between client terminals and servers, generating a database of characteristic data, and dynamically distributing data between the client terminals and servers as a function of the characteristic data. (See the Summary of Raz). Consequently, Raz does not teach or suggest "processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes information not residing on the second system to process the query." Finally, Raz does not teach or suggest "utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system." The steps described by Raz are clearly different from the steps recited in claim 1. Therefore, because Raz fails to teach or suggest the cooperation of elements as recited in claim 1, claim 1 is allowable over Raz.

Independent claims 14 and 27 are system and computer readable medium claims, respectively, similar in scope to claim 1. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to claim 1 apply with equal force to claims 14 and 27. Accordingly, claims 14 and 27 are also allowable over the cited reference.

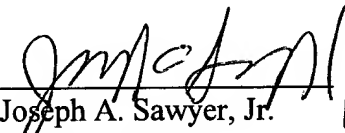
Dependent claims 2-13, 15-26 and 28-39 depend from claims 1, 14 and 27, respectively. Accordingly, claims 2-13, 15-26 and 28-39 are also allowable over the cited reference as least for the same reasons as independent claims 1, 14, and 27.

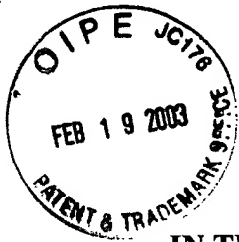
New claims 40-42 are similar in scope to claims 1, 14, and 27 and are allowable for the above-stated reasons. Support for new claims 40-42 is found in the specification at page 5, line 12, to page 6, line 9. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been presented. To further define the scope and novelty of the present invention, claims 40-42 further recite "the second system utilizes only information not residing on the second system to process the query." Raz describes information being used from both client terminals and servers, whereas claims 40-42 recite that only information not residing on the second system is utilized.

Attached hereto and captioned "Marked Version to Show Changes Made" is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment.

Accordingly, Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**MARKED VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS**

40. (New) A method for accessing information on a network, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) allowing a first system to submit a query to a second system;
- b) processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes only information not residing on the second system to process the query; and
- c) utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system.

41. (New) A network database management system for accessing information on a network, the system comprising:

- means for allowing a first system to submit a query to a second system;
- means for processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes only information not residing on the second system to process the query; and
- means for utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system.

42. (New) A computer readable medium containing program instructions for accessing information on a network, the program instructions comprising the steps of:

- a) allowing a first system to submit a query to a second system;

- b) processing the query with the second system wherein the second system utilizes only information not residing on the second system to process the query; and
- c) utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system.